

41504 to 41508—Continued.

unarmed, pinnate, reclinate, with long, awl-shaped, plicate leaflets; flowers dioecious; spathe polyvalved; spadix erect; fruit a drupe, oval, 1 cm. in length, fleshy, black, hard; stone single, oblong, horny. In Cochin China the plant goes under the name *Cay-cho la*. The trunk stripped of its leaves contains a certain quantity of starch which the poor use in case of need. This palm stands the climate of the south of France without protection. It is adapted to sandy and otherwise dry and barren land, but prefers the vicinity of the sea. (Adapted from *Von Mueller, Select Extra-Tropical Plants*, p. 373, and *De Lanèsson, Les Plantes Utiles des Colonies Françaises*, p. 784.)

See S. P. I. No. 32821 for previous introduction.

41508. MUSA sp. Musaceæ.**Banana.**

"Banana seeds which were produced without artificial pollination. I am not sure whether the pollen is from the same genus or from a *Strelitzia* growing near it. It is remarkable that only the variety *Orinoco* (from Florida) develops seeds, while several other varieties growing also in the vicinity are seedless." (*Bircher*.)

41509. OSTERDAMIA TENUIFOLIA (Trin.) Kuntze. Poaceæ.*(Zoyisa tenuifolia Trin.)***Mascarene grass.**

Seeds from the island of Guam. Presented by Mr. J. B. Thompson, Guam Agricultural Experiment Station; obtained by him from the Bonine Islands. Received in 1912.

"This grass is used for lawn purposes in Japan and is said to succeed well about Yokohama. It was originally described from the Mascarene Islands. It has been tested in a preliminary way in California, at Biloxi, Miss., and at Miami, Fla. The grass makes a very beautiful dark-green turf, the leaves being short, never more than an inch or two long, much resembling the turf of red fescue. Stout rootstocks are produced in abundance, and these have a tendency to elevate the turf, a defect which can be remedied by proper rolling. The grass has considerable promise for fine turf and for golf purposes in the South." (*C. V. Piper*.)

41510 to 41516. TRITICUM AESTIVUM L. Poaceæ.**Wheat.***(Triticum vulgare Vill.)*

Seed from Quetta Valley, Baluchistan. Presented by Mr. A. Howard, Imperial Economic Botanist, Pusa, Bengal, India. Received November 2, 1915. Quoted notes by Mr. Howard.

41510. "Common winter wheat. Spike bearded, 10 to 13 cm., tapering; glumes white, firm, glabrous; beaks 1 to 25 mm.; kernel red, large, 7 to 8 mm., hard."

41511. "Common winter wheat. Spike bearded, 10 to 12 cm., cylindrical; glumes white, glabrous; kernel amber, medium soft; beaks (a) 7 heads, 1 to 15 mm., (b) 3 heads, 1 to 2 mm."

41512. "Common winter wheat. Spike bearded, beards short, 3 to 4 cm.; glumes white, pubescent, kernel amber, medium hard; beaks 1 to 3 mm."

41513. "Common winter wheat. Spike bearded, cylindrical, 10 to 12 cm.; glumes white, pubescent; kernel amber, medium hard; beaks 1 to 20 mm."